

REMARKS

The instant amendment is in response to the decision of the Board of Appeals dated August 17, 2006 and intended to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Board sustained the rejections of claims 1-2, 8-11 and 13-14. Claims 1-11 and 13-14 have been canceled rendering these rejections moot.

The Board reversed the prior art rejections of claims 12, 15 & 17-23 as well as the rejections of claims 2, 8-9, 11-12, 15 & 17-23 under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 15, 18 & 23 have been amended to independent form. Having no present rejections, Claims 12 and 15-23 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Withdrawn claim 16, being dependent from claim 15, is also now believed to be in condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe additional discussion would advance the prosecution of the instant application, he is invited to contact the undersigned.

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